

Practicing Faith Survey: Sample Questions

We do not share the entire Practicing Faith Survey with teachers and parents ahead of time. It is important that it not be viewed as something to teach toward in the sense of trying to help students get better scores. The survey is not a test. The point is not to get a particular score or a “correct” set of answers. The goal is to get an accurate reflection of students’ actual current investment in Christian practices so that the school can consider where additional input might be helpful and so that students can consider areas to explore more. Too much conversation about the questions ahead of time might actually cover up areas where growth is needed by pushing students toward what seems like the “right” answer.

We do understand, however, the desire of teachers and parents to see what their students will be answering, so we have prepared this set of sample questions to give you a representative taste of what students will see.

We do not ask students about what they know or what they believe. Instead the questions focus on student’s practices and motivations. For each area below, students are asked to indicate how often they engage in each specific practice (on a range from “never” to “almost always”) or the degree to which a particular consideration motivates them (on a range from “does not motivate me at all” to “extremely”).

Sample Items:

Intellectual Practices

Tell us how often you do each of the following:

- 1) I consider different points of view to help form my judgement about a topic where people disagree.
- 2) When I am inaccurate or wrong about something I say, I admit my mistake.

Relational Practices

Tell us how often you do each of the following:

- 1) I try to include new friends into my current circles of friends.
- 2) I tell my principal how thankful I am for their work.

Introspective Practices

Tell us how much each of the following motivates you to learn and master the topics that are taught in school.

- 1) To be prepared for the job God will call me to do in the future.
- 2) Because I recognize that learning something is a gift from God.

Beneficent Practices

How often do you do the following for your city/town with your school or classmates?

- 1) I think about how to apply the knowledge or skills that I am learning at school to serve my city/town.
- 2) My classmates and I pray for our city/town together.

Formational Practices

How often do you do the following things?

- 1) I reflect on how to apply what was taught in chapel, church, or Bible class.
- 2) I meet with peers or an adult mentor to discuss my progress in school.

<https://practicing.faith/>